

reliability in place of channel values corresponding to punctured bits of the received code sequences.

7. The decoding unit according to claim 4, wherein every time
5 input of one of the blocks has been completed, each of said decoders starts decoding of the block, and outputs posterior values corresponding to the channel values of the block as posterior values corresponding to the information bits of the block.

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8. The decoding unit according to claim 7, wherein at least one
of said plurality of decoders decodes one of the blocks whose
input has not yet been completed to generate posterior values
of the block, and uses values corresponding to the posterior
15 values as prior values of the block whose input has been completed.

9. A decoding unit for decoding a turbo-code sequence, said decoding unit comprising:

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a decoder for dividing a received code sequence into a plurality of blocks along a time axis, and for decoding each of the blocks in sequence.

10. The decoding unit according to claim 9, further comprising
25 a channel value memory for storing the received code sequence, wherein said decoder comprises:

a channel value memory interface for reading the received code sequence from said channel value memory block by block;

a transition probability calculating circuit for
30 calculating forward and reverse transition probabilities from